

BOOK REVIEW

PAUL MARTIN BROWN. 2008. **Lady's-slippers in Your Pocket: A Guide to the Native Lady's-slippers Orchids, *Cypripedium*, of the United States and Canada.** (ISBN 1-58729-655-1, pbk.). University of Iowa Press, 119 W Park Road, 100 Kuhl House, Iowa City, IA 52242-1000, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.uiowapress.org, 1-800-621-2736, 1-800-621-8476 fax). \$9.95, pocket guide, selection of color images, plant descriptions, and basic key, 4 1/8" × 9" folds out to 16 3/4" × 16 7/8".

PAUL MARTIN BROWN. 2008. **Ladies'-tresses in Your Pocket: A Guide to the Native Ladies'-tresses Orchids, *Spiranthes*, of the United States and Canada.** (ISBN 1-58729-656-X, pbk.). University of Iowa Press, 119 W Park Road, 100 Kuhl House, Iowa City, IA 52242-1000, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.uiowapress.org, 1-800-621-2736, 1-800-621-8476 fax). \$9.95, pocket guide, selection of color images, plant descriptions, and basic key, 4 1/8" × 9" folds out to 16 3/4" × 16 7/8".

These laminated, foldable guides consist of a series of plant descriptions and images of the most common species of either *Cypripedium* (Lady's-slippers Orchids) or *Spiranthes* (Ladies'-tresses Orchids) found in the United States and Canada. Each description includes a color image with the common and scientific name. For the *Cypripedium* guide, most of the descriptions include information regarding plant height, range, blooming season, and brief habitat notes for twelve species, two varieties, and six hybrids. Only some of the images included the habitat and a close-up of the flower. The *Spiranthes* guide format is similar; however, it includes more information regarding flower and leaf descriptions for twenty-six species, three varieties, and seven hybrids. The images within this guide consisted of close-ups of the flower.

Compactable, lightweight, and weatherproof, these guides could come in handy for the novice orchid hunter. The short dichotomous keys are straight-forward, and the detailed images should make identification of these two orchid-types a breeze. I would suggest both guides for any person eager to learn more about the possible *Cypripedium* or *Spiranthes* orchids in their area. I mean, at this price and size, why not?—Keri McNew Barfield, MS Biology, Research Programs Manager, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 500 E 4th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4025, U.S.A.